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By Eric L. Maldonado

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Attorney Docket No. 3094/FLK (032878-87728)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: M. NAKANO
Serial No.: 09/675,220
Filed: September 29, 2000
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING...
Examiner: Caridad M. Everhart
Art Unit: 2825

June 3, 2003

Director of the U.S. Patent and
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of documents listed thereon. These documents contain information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

As this document is written in a language other than English, an English Language abstract is annexed thereto explaining its relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is

intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

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1449/PTO	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Application No. : 09/675,220 Filing Date : September 29, 2000 First Named Inventor: M. NAKANO Group Art Unit : 2825 Examiner Name : C.M. EVERHART Attorney Docket No. : 3094/FLK
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <u>Sheet 1 of 1</u>		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY/Y	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		64-8225	JP	DAIDO STEEL CO LTD	01/12/1989	

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check here if English language translation attached
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¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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